

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

*Please insert the following new paragraph after the Title and before the first paragraph on page 1:*

-- This application is the U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2005/017246, filed September 20, 2005, which in turn claims the benefit of Japanese Application No. 2004-294801, filed October 7, 2004, the disclosures of which Applications are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety. --

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 13 and ending on page 1, line 27 with the following:*

In Fig. 5, discharge tube 1 is made of dielectric material such as glass. Electrodes 2 and 3 are placed at circumference of discharge tube 1. Power source 4 is connected to electrodes 2 and 3. Discharge space 5 is an empty space allocated between electrodes 2 and 3 inside discharge tube 1. Discharge part 40 includes discharge tube 1, ~~electric power~~ electrodes 2 and 3, power source 4, and discharge space 5. Fully reflective mirror 6 and partially reflective mirror 7 are placed at both ends of discharge space 5, constituting the optical oscillator. Laser beam 8 is issued from partially reflective mirror 7. Arrow mark 9 indicates a direction of laser gas flow circulating in the gas laser oscillator. Laser gas flow pipe 10 indicates a flow route of laser gas. Heat exchangers 11 and 12 reduce a temperature of the laser gas heated by an electric discharge in discharge space 5 and a movement of an air blower. Air blower 13 circulates laser gas in discharge space 5 at a flow speed of about 100m/sec. Laser gas flow pipe 10 and discharge tube 11 are connected at laser gas introduce part 14.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 26 and ending on page 4, line 9 with the following:*

The gas laser oscillator according to the present invention includes a discharge part, an air blower, a laser gas flow pipe, a driving part, a divide wall, a gas supply apparatus, a main ejection apparatus, the sub ejection apparatus, a detector, a controller (it can be referred to as a gas pressure controller), and a clogged laying pipe judge part. The discharge part is composed of a discharge tube, ~~an electric power~~ electrodes, a power source and a discharge space for exciting laser gas. The air blower blows the laser gas. The laser gas flow pipe constitutes a circulation route of the laser gas between the discharge part and the air blower. The driving part drives the air blower. The divide wall separates the air blower part and a driving part. The gas supply apparatus has a valve, for supplying the laser gas to the laser gas flow pipe.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 and ending on page 4, line 23 with the following:*

The main ejection apparatus has a valve, ejecting laser gas from the laser gas flow pipe. The sub ejection apparatus ejects the laser gas from the driving part. The detector detects an amount of the laser gas ejected from at least one of the main ejection apparatus and the sub ejection apparatus. The controller controls each valve of the gas supply apparatus and the main ejection apparatus, ~~and the sub ejection apparatus~~. A signal from the detector is input to the controller, and the controller compares the ejected amount of the laser gas at a time the valve of the main apparatus is closed, with a predetermined value. The clogged laying pipe judge part judges the laying pipe of the sub ejection apparatus is clogged when an ejected amount of the laser gas is smaller than a predetermined value. A signal from the detector is input to the controller and then the controller compares the ejected amount of the laser gas at the time the valve of the main ejection apparatus is closed with a predetermined value.